

IN THE CLAIMS

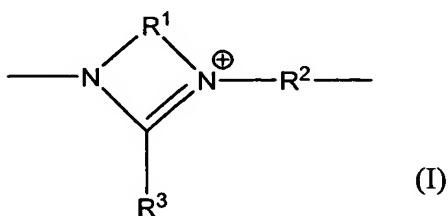
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A cationic polymer comprising cyclic nonaromatic units which ~~contain~~ comprise an amidinium group, with the cyclic nonaromatic units which ~~contain~~ comprise an amidinium group ~~being~~ located in the main chain of the polymer, wherein the cyclic nonaromatic units which ~~contain~~ comprise an amidinium group are linked to the main chain of the polymer via the two N atoms.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The cationic polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cyclic nonaromatic units which ~~contain~~ comprise an amidinium group are substituted or unsubstituted 5-, 6- or 7-membered rings or combinations ~~of these~~ thereof.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The cationic polymer as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cyclic nonaromatic units which ~~contain~~ comprise an amidinium group are selected from ~~among the group consisting of~~ substituted and unsubstituted imidazolinium, ~~tetrahydropyrimidinium and~~ tetrahydropyrimidinium, tetrahydro-1,3-diazepinium groups and combinations thereof.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The cationic polymer as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ which comprises the following structural unit in the main chain:



~~where~~ wherein R^1 is $-(CH_2)_n-$ where $n = 2, 3$ or 4 ;

R^2 is $-(CH_2)_m-$ where $0 < m < 22$,

-CH=CH-CH₂-,

-CH=CH-CH₂-CH₂-,

-CH=CH-,

-CH=CH-CH=CH-,

a monocyclic or polycyclic arylene radical or

a divalent polyether radical of the structure - (CH₂)_k- (O- (CH₂)_k)_p-where 0 < k < 22

and 0 < p < 100, in particular $R^2 = R^1$; and

R³ is - (CH₂)_l-CH₃ where 0 < l < 21 or a monocyclic or polycyclic aryl radical.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The cationic polymer as claimed in claim 4, wherein n = 2 and $R^2 = R^1$ and the cationic polymer is prepared from essentially linear polyethylenamine.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The cationic polymer as claimed in ~~any of~~ claims 1 to 5 containing counterions claim 1 comprising at least one counterion selected from the group consisting of iodide, halide, phosphate, halophosphates, alkyl phosphates, nitrate, sulfate, hydrogensulfate, alkyl sulfates, aryl sulfates, perfluorinated alkyl and aryl sulfates, sulfonate, alkylsulfonates, arylsulfonates, perfluorinated alkylsulfonates and arylsulfonates, perchlorate, tetrachloroaluminate, tetrafluoroborate, alkyl borates, tosylate, saccharinate, alkyl carboxylates, bis(perfluoroalkylsulfonyl)amide anions and mixtures thereof.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The cationic polymer as claimed in claim 6 ~~in~~ which wherein the counterion is iodide.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The cationic polymer as claimed in any of~~
~~claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 which comprises at least one counterion capable of ~~contains counterions~~
~~suitable for producing liquid-crystalline states.~~

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing ~~[[a]] the~~ cationic polymer as
claimed in claim 4 ~~in which $R^1 = R^2 = -CH_2-CH_2-$ and R^3 is as defined in claim 5 by~~
comprising reacting a predominantly linear polyethylenamine with an ortho ester in the
presence of an ammonium salt which ~~contain~~ comprises weakly nucleophilic anion wherein
 $R^1 = R^2 = -CH_2-CH_2-$.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of a cationic polymer as claimed in any of~~
~~claims 1 to 8 as~~ A polyelectrolyte in batteries or solar cells comprising the cationic polymer
as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyelectrolyte is comprised in a battery or a solar cell.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of a cationic polymer as claimed in any of~~
~~claims 1 to 8 as~~ An additive for polymers comprising the cationic polymer as claimed in
claim 1.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of a cationic polymer as claimed in any of~~
~~claims 1 to 8 in optical components~~ An optical component comprising the cationic polymer
as claimed in claim 1.